

## CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

- 1        1.        A flexible tap apparatus member comprising:  
2                a shaft having an upper shaft portion and a lower shaft portion, said upper shaft  
3                portion comprising ridges and said lower shaft portion having a substantially smooth  
4                surface;  
5                wherein said flexible tap apparatus member is arranged and configured to engage  
6                tissue.
- 1        2.        The flexible tap apparatus member of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                a tip terminating said upper shaft portion.
- 1        3.        The flexible tap apparatus member of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                a passage disposed axially into said shaft.
- 1        4.        The flexible tap apparatus member of claim 3, wherein said passage extends a  
2                portion of the length of the shaft.
- 1        5.        The flexible tap apparatus member of claim 3, further comprising:  
2                a lateral passage extending laterally from said passage disposed axially into said  
3                shaft.

- 1        6.    The flexible tap apparatus member of claim 1, further comprising
- 2           a handle arranged and configured to releasably receive said lower shaft portion.

- 1        7.     A flexible tap apparatus system comprising:  
2             a first flexible tap apparatus member, comprising:  
3                     a shaft having an upper shaft portion and a lower shaft portion, said upper  
4             shaft portion comprising ridges and said lower shaft portion having a substantially  
5             smooth surface;  
6                     wherein said shaft of said first flexible tap apparatus member comprises a  
7             first set of dimensions; and  
8             a second flexible tap apparatus member, comprising:  
9                     a shaft having an upper shaft portion and a lower shaft portion, said upper  
10            shaft portion comprising ridges and said lower shaft portion having a substantially  
11            smooth surface;  
12                    wherein said shaft of said second flexible tap apparatus member comprises  
13            a second set of dimensions;  
14            wherein said first set of dimensions differs from said second set of dimensions.

- 1        8.     The flexible tap apparatus system of claim 7, further comprising:  
2             a handle arranged and configured to interchangeably receive said first flexible tap  
3             apparatus member and said second flexible tap apparatus member.

- 1        9.     The flexible tap apparatus system of claim 7, wherein at least one of said first  
2             flexible tap apparatus member and said second flexible tap apparatus member comprises:  
3             a passage disposed axially into said shaft.

1        10.    The flexible tap apparatus system of claim 9, wherein said passage disposed  
2        axially in said shaft extends a portion of the length of said shaft.

1        11.    The flexible tap apparatus system of claim 7, wherein at least one of said first  
2        flexible tap apparatus member and said second flexible tap apparatus member comprises:  
3                a passage disposed axially into said shaft; and  
4                a lateral passage disposed in said shaft extending from said passage disposed  
5        axially in said shaft.

1        12.    A method of creating a passage in tissue comprising:  
2            providing a flexible tap apparatus system comprising:  
3                a first flexible tap apparatus member, comprising:  
4                        a shaft having an upper shaft portion and a lower shaft portion,  
5                        said upper shaft portion comprising ridges and said lower shaft portion  
6                        having a substantially smooth surface;  
7                        wherein said shaft of said first flexible tap apparatus member  
8                        comprises a first set of dimensions; and  
9            a second flexible tap apparatus member, comprising:  
10                a shaft having an upper shaft portion and a lower shaft portion, said upper  
11                shaft portion comprising ridges and said lower shaft portion having a substantially  
12                smooth surface;  
13                wherein said shaft of said second flexible tap apparatus member  
14                comprises a second set of dimensions;  
15            wherein said first set of dimensions differs from said second set of dimensions;  
16            engaging said first flexible tap apparatus member into the tissue;  
17            disengaging said first flexible tap apparatus member from the tissue; and  
18            engaging said second flexible tap apparatus member into the tissue.

- 1        13.     A method of claim 12, further comprising the step of:  
2                disposing a guide pin into the tissue;  
3                engaging said first flexible tap apparatus member with said guide pin;  
4                boring a passage in the tissue with said first flexible tap apparatus member;  
5                removing said first flexible tap apparatus member;  
6                engaging said second flexible tap apparatus member with said guide pin; and  
7                boring into said passage in the tissue with said second flexible tap apparatus  
8        member.